

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please enter the following amendments:

1. (Currently Amended) A code translation method comprising the steps of:
receiving an input code stored in a hierarchical data structure, the input code including
a first value in a parameter of the hierarchical data structure which determines the
an allowable range of data amount in the input code,
user data in [[at]] a first ~~level~~ layer of the hierarchical data structure, and
main data in [[at]] a second ~~level~~ layer of the hierarchical data structure;
storing the user data and main data in a data buffer; and
generating an output code stored in the hierarchical data structure, the output code
including by modifying the input code, by
the stored main data,
moving the stored user data ~~to a third level~~ in a layer of the hierarchical data
structure other than the first layer, and
changing a second value in the parameter of the hierarchical data structure which
determines an allowable range of data amount in the output code, the second value being
different from the first value to reflect the change in code size a change from the allowable range
of data amount in the input code effected by moving the user data from the input code to the
output code;
wherein the stored main data included in the output code is identical to the main data
included in the input code.

2. (Currently Amended) The code translation method of claim 1, wherein the hierarchical data structure conforms with the ISO 13818-2 standard; the parameter ~~which determines the allowable range of data amount in the input code of~~ the hierarchical data structure is one of a bit rate value, a VBV (Video Buffering Verifier) buffer size value, and a VBV delay value; and

the main data comprises compressed video data.

3. (Currently Amended) The code translation method of claim 2, wherein the first ~~level~~ layer of the hierarchical data structure is the Group of Pictures (GOP) layer; and

the third ~~level~~ layer of the hierarchical data structure is the picture layer.

4. (Currently Amended) The code translation method of claim 2, wherein the first ~~level~~ layer of the hierarchical data structure is the picture layer; and the third ~~level~~ layer of the hierarchical data structure is the Group of Pictures (GOP) layer.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) The code translation method of claim 1, further comprising the step of generating additional information for distinguishing the user data included in the input code from the ~~[[other]]~~ main data,

wherein generation of the output code is advanced according to the additional information.

7 - 10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A code translation device comprising:

a data analyzing section adapted to identify in an input code stored in a hierarchical data structure

a first value in a parameter of the hierarchical data structure which determines
[[the]] an allowable range of data amount in the input code,

user data in [[at]] a first ~~level~~ layer of the hierarchical data structure, and

main data in [[at]] a second ~~level~~ layer of the hierarchical data structure; and

a multiplexing section which produces an output code stored in a hierarchical data structure, the output code including in which the input code is modified by moving

the stored main data,

the user data ~~to a third level in a layer~~ of the hierarchical data structure other than the first layer,

changing a second value in the parameter of the hierarchical data structure which determines an allowable range of data amount in the output code, the second value being different from the first value to reflect the change in code size a change from the allowable range of data amount in the input code effected by moving the user data from the input code to the output code; and including

wherein the main data included in the output code[[,]] is identical to the main data included in the input code.

12 - 13. (Canceled)

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14. (Currently Amended) The code translation device of claim 11, wherein the hierarchical data structure conforms with the ISO 13818-2 standard; the parameter ~~which determines the allowable range of data amount in the input code of~~ the hierarchical data structure is one of a bit rate value, a VBV (Video Buffering Verifier) buffer size value, and a VBV delay value; and the main data comprises compressed video data.

15. (Currently Amended) The code translation device of claim 14, wherein the first ~~level~~ layer of the hierarchical data structure is the Group of Pictures (GOP) layer; and the third ~~level~~ layer of the hierarchical data structure is the picture layer.

16. (Currently Amended) The code translation device claim 14, wherein the first ~~level~~ layer of the hierarchical data structure is the picture layer; and the third ~~level~~ layer of the hierarchical data structure is the Group of Pictures (GOP) layer.

17. (New) The code translation method of claim 1, wherein the stored main data included in the output code is in the second layer of the of the hierarchical data structure.

18. (New) The code translation device of claim 14, wherein the stored main data included in the output code is in the second layer of the of the hierarchical data structure.